

**ABSTRACT**

An apparatus and method are formed to add a header to a data packet being transmitted into a data packet network for a communication that is to be monitored. The header causes the data packet to be routed to a specified system node that  
5 contains monitoring equipment. The specified system node then forwards the data packet to an exit node. The header is stripped prior to exiting the data packet network to a destination system or device so that there will be no indication that the call was monitored. In an alternate  
10 embodiment, a duplicate packet is created wherein one packet is routed to a specified destination for the communication while the other data packet is routed to a node containing monitoring equipment.